

Alaska U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

2011 Student Employment Program

Intern Request Form

Please Complete all information listed in *BLUE*

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

FWS Office

Box 346

Bethel

AK

99559

Address

City

State

Zip

Kristine Sowl

(907)-543-1027

kristine_sowl@fws.gov

FWS Project Leader

Phone

Email

Kristine Sowl

Acting Super. Biologist

(907)-543-1027

kristine_sowl@fws.gov

Intern Supervisor (if different)

Title

Phone

Email

April 30, 2012

Bethel, Alaska

Start Date for internship

Location of Internship

Housing/Travel

NO

Does the internship location require the intern to have his own vehicle to get to work?

N/A – This is a field project

What kind of public transportation is available in the area?

YES

Will you or another FWS staff be able to pick up the intern at the airport if needed?

YES

Nearest airport to the internship location

BET - Bethel

Will your office be able to provide housing for your intern?

Housing Description:

Co-ed Bunkhouse or individual tent in field-camp; shared kitchen or cook tent; remote operations

Required Training

Check all the apply to this position

★	IT Security Training, QuickTime, General USFWS Overview
X	Bear Safety
X	Firearms
	Boat Safety and Operation
X	Aircraft Safety(required for travel in government float planes
X	CPR and wilderness first aid
	ATV Training
X	Site/Job Specific (please describe): EXAMPLES: Bird identification, behavioral observations of shorebirds, nest monitoring, invertebrate sampling, habitat sampling, bird capture and handling techniques

Intern Position Description

Biological Science Technician, Avian

GS- 07

Position Title

GS or WG and what level?

DUTIES

Please note the duties the intern will be performing

As a **Biological Science Technician** you will:

- Assemble basic information on wildlife populations and their habitat at the field site
- Record basic ecological and weather information at the field site
- Conduct intensive behavioral observations of breeding shorebirds and their predators
- Conduct presence/absence surveys of birds and their predators using point count surveys
- Search for and monitor bird nests using appropriate techniques
- Capture and handle birds using appropriate techniques, measurement or sampling of birds
- Operate and maintain a variety of scientific field sampling equipment
- Work and travel safely and effectively (by aircraft and on foot) in difficult environmental conditions and in bear country

EDUCATION LEVEL, SKILL, INTERESTS

Please note specific skills, competencies, interests, classes selected, or other qualifications that would be useful for an intern to have in order to make a significant contribution on this project.

This position requires **greater maturity** and **emotional resources** than positions that are solely office-based. Field work is difficult with biting insects, harsh weather, potentially dangerous wildlife, and **strenuous working conditions** in remote environments with three other people. The field site is **extremely remote and isolated** and amenities at the field camp are relatively **primitive** and will involve tent camping, so this position requires someone who can be comfortable living and working in the outdoor environment for an extended period of time. It is essential that the intern be **enthusiastic**, willing to **learn new skills** both scientific and outdoor oriented, and interested in the behavior and ecology of birds. The intern should also have exacting attention to detail for required data collection and management.

The GS-07 Intern should be entered into a graduate level program of study. At this GS level, the intern will need to have prior experience with identification and capture of birds, avian ecology, management of data, and how to conduct field operations. This intern will assist in planning and execution of the field project and direct lower graded technicians and volunteers in their field work. As this is the final year of a specialized shorebird project, the intern will need to have had prior experience identifying and capturing large shorebird species and observing the behavior of Bristle-thighed Curlews.

WORK CONDITIONS, CLOTHING GEAR

Describe the work conditions (hours, dress code, environment/setting) and appropriate clothing/gear that the prospective intern should be aware of

The intern will be expected to work 48 hours per week. There is no uniform requirement. The intern should bring appropriate field clothes that they are comfortable getting dirty and can stand up to the rigors of harsh treatment. They should bring their own rain gear (jacket and pants), hiking boots, and warm clothes. It is best to dress in layers and use synthetic fibers such as polypropylene, capilene, or polar fleece, etc. are preferred. Wool is a good natural fiber as it keeps its "warmth" even when wet. Avoid cotton clothes as they will provide no warmth when wet. The temperature in Alaska from May to August ranges from 20–85 degrees (F) and weather can change dramatically within a day. Thus, the ability to add and remove clothes based on weather conditions is important. Also, the intern should bring gloves, a warm hat, a baseball cap, sunglasses, and waterproof hiking boots. The job will entail being outside and strenuous hiking. There are places to buy outdoor gear in Anchorage.

FWS to Provide: Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, hip waders, knee boots, mosquito jackets and headnets, binoculars, and cook stoves and other camp gear.

This position is identified as a gun-bearing position. The intern must qualify during training to carry a firearm for bear protection and pass a background investigation. Under Federal Law 18 U.S.C. 9229(g), any person convicted of a felony crime or the misdemeanor crime of domestic violence may not possess a firearm or ammunition and therefore will not be considered for this position.